



Office of the Mayor

David J. Cieslewicz

Room 403
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard
Madison, Wisconsin 53703-3345
PH 608 266 4611
FAX 608 267 8671
TTY/Textnet 866 704 2340
mayor@cityofmadison.com

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The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
United States House of Representatives
2446 House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-4902

Dear Congresswoman Baldwin:

As you know, one of my goals for the City of Madison is for our city and our region to be nationally and internationally recognized as a leader in energy conservation, sustainable development, and green efficiency. I am writing today in support of an application for federal funding being submitted by Ted Petith to establish a Renewable Energy and Sustainability Center in central Madison.

The Center will be modeled on the Solar Info Center in our sister city of Freiburg, Germany. I have seen this globally-recognized model for renewable energy, energy efficiency, and environmental sustainability firsthand and can vouch for its role in establishing Freiburg as a solar city.

With UW-Madison as one of our nation's strongest research institutions, Madison Area Technical College providing solid technical training, a forward thinking business community, and residents strongly engaged in environmental issues, Madison is well positioned to lead the Midwest in renewable energies and sustainable technologies. A Renewable Energy and Sustainability Center in central Madison will help capitalize on each of these strengths.

Specially, the Center will bring together developers, researchers, builders, consultants, financiers, workers in skilled trades, educators, and outreach specialists. The Center will connect these talents to each other locally and through a network of similar info centers around the world. At the Center, homeowners and businesses will see for themselves the benefits of new technologies and get answers to the questions they have. The Center will be the location for conferences and special community events. The result will be collaboration, promotion, innovation, new business development, and creation of high quality jobs in the field of energy conservation and renewables.

I hope that you too will support this project as it moves forward. With sufficient financial support from local, state and federal sources, the Renewable Energy and Sustainability Center will be a generator of new technologies and applications, a symbol of our community's commitment to climate issues, and a model for other communities across the country.

Sincerely,

David J. Cieslewicz
Mayor

DJC/cjp